



USAID
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AFGHANISTAN

ROAD UPDATE

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Kandahar-Herat Highway

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the Kandahar-Herat Highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. Afghanistan’s Ministry of Public Works has signed a contract for the Saudi-funded section and the contractor is now mobilizing.

In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), 49% of the first layer of asphalt has been laid along with 40% of the second layer. In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues on 4A and paving is now in full swing with 29% of both the first and second layer of asphalt completed; on 4B both the culvert works and placement of the crushed aggregate base (CAB) course are over 97% complete. Asphalt treated base (ATB) course is 98% complete, and 91% of the second layer of asphalt has been laid. Placement of the final (wearing) course of asphalt will begin this month. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues alongside excavation and embankment work. Over 33% of the CAB course is now complete, along with 21% of the first layer of asphalt (ATB).

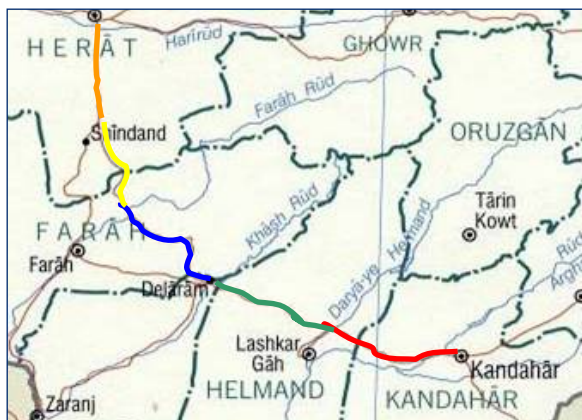
USAID incorporates capacity building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase the participation and commitment of Afghans. During this period, 75% of the project’s employees were Afghan nationals.



Bridge construction on Section 3.



Laying asphalt base course on Section 3.



Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections

- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5



Work on girders at Section 3's base camp.

Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow



Provincial Roads Highlights

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

Provincial Road	Progress to date
Kabul-Gardez Road (122km)	Asphalt treated base (ATB) work is complete from Km7 and Km13. AWC overlay is complete from Km45 to Km33 and from Km71 to Km86. Side road drainage and site cleanup works are underway.
Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35km)	Demining and surveying continues in the borrow pits area. Main alignment is complete from Km0 to Km35. Road work design has been approved. Culvert installation is ongoing from Km0 to Km20.
Jalalabad-Asmar Road (122km)	Both crushers are working and crushing of base course continues. Assembly of the base mixing plant is almost complete and culvert works are in progress. UXO/Mine clearance work has been completed from Km0 to Km112 and is in progress from Km112 to Km124.
Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148km)	Second layer of paving started July 24 and is progressing well. Laying of prime coat has begun.
Panjsher Road (69.2km)	Demining work is proceeding on schedule. The excavation of the security ditch around the camp has been completed and foundations for two buildings have also been completed.
Urban Roads	Road pavement, geometric design and electrical design work is ongoing. Seven-Day Traffic counts have been completed. EPD/ KPD security protocols have been implemented.
Sheberghan to Sari Pul Road (54km)	Work on abutment of the 2 bridges is on-going. Embankment is complete from Km1 to Km42 and from Km44 to Km51. A total of 32 out of 51 culverts have been completed.
Farah-Ring Road (70km)	Construction of the stone masonry retaining wall for the crusher plant is underway with 20% of civil works complete. A topographical survey is ongoing and design of horizontal/vertical alignment of the road and cross-sections have commenced. Sampling and testing of the road subgrade and borrow pit materials are ongoing.
Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49km)	The crusher plant is awaiting a 380 kVa genset in order to commission the plant. Rough grading of the entire project was reported as being complete.
Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5km)	Works to improve the security of the camp site at Sardeh Dam have progressed well. Demining work is continuing from Km32 towards Sharan.



Roller-work on Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road.



Lashkar Gah-Ring Road completed bridge work.



New and old surface in use on Kabul-Gardez Road.

Road-Related Security Incidents

During this reporting period, there were no security incidents directly related to road reconstruction.

Indicator Hostile Attacks)	This Reporting Period	Cumulative Total FY05
Persons Kidnapped/ Released	0/0	3/2
Persons Injured/Killed	0/0	20/9
Other Hostile Attacks	0	35